

LATEST HAPPENINGS IN AND ABOUT SOUTH BEND

What Local Societies Are Doing for Babies

EPWORTH HOSPITAL.
Of course there should never be, but equally of course, there will always be, sick babies—babies whose birthright is "nursed," or babies whose environment is such as to discount the most perfect birthright.

To care for such babies is the mission of the Baby house at Epworth hospital, and in the year and a half of its existence it has performed its mission well. Moreover, it has proved that there is a real need for a baby hospital in South Bend, one large enough to care properly for all of the sick babies, a large number of whom have actually died merely because it was impossible to give them proper treatment at home, and the Baby House was too crowded to receive them.

The Baby House, which is nothing more than a small portable building set up under a big tree back of Epworth hospital on Main st., was established Oct. 1, 1914. The building was purchased by the Visiting Nurse association and furnished throughout by the merchants of the city. In one year's time, from January, 1914, to January, 1915, it took care of 143 children under 10 years old. It was here that Annie Erickson, the city's little charge, spent her last year at the hospital. She now lives in the country and attends country school.

The ward contains 12 small white beds, though the room has accommodated as many as 18 children. The daily average has been eight babies. It is summer time when summer complaint claims so many little victims, that the hospital feels most keenly the inadequacy of its Baby House, for then there are always 30 or more suffering babes clamoring for admission.

Two day nurses and one night nurse are furnished to the children and they are cared for by the staff physicians who show more than a professional interest in the pitifully hampered and oftentimes orphaned little ones who are brought to them for help.

The average cost for the maintenance of the institution is \$75 a month. While pay cases are accepted, 75 per cent of the cases are charity, many of them accepted in cooperation with the children's dispensary, which is maintained chiefly for the children of less fortunate parents. Eighty quarts of milk a month is the average consumption at the Baby House and this of course is no small item of the cost of maintenance.

Epworth hospital being a private institution, this expense is of course sustained by a comparatively few persons in the community.

"That is one of the main arguments in favor of a county hospital," says one of the staff physicians. "There is no good reason why one small group of people should have the support of such an institution thrust upon them. It should be maintained by the entire county and then the entire county should enjoy its benefits. As it is only a small percentage of the really deserving cases can be taken care of, because the hospital has room for but a limited number."

"The most crying need in the community, it seems to me, is a maternity hospital. 'Better mothers,' of course, means 'better babies.' In fact, we cannot have better babies until we do have better mothers. The conditions under which some babies are brought into the world merely because we have no room for their mothers in the hospitals, are little short of horrifying. Not long ago I was called into a home to bring a baby into the world. The home consisted of one room and a little lean-to kitchen in one of the congested sections of the city. The room where the mother lay contained a dilapidated couch, a full-sized bed, a crib, a table, some chairs and an organ. Three or four other persons besides myself were in the room. There was scarcely room to turn around. The place was absolutely insanitary. It was out of the question to give the mother any attention in such a place, so she was rushed to the hospital."

"There are dozens of cases like that in South Bend every week. I dare say. If these mothers all were to be given proper attention, it is easy to say that neither of our present hospitals could accommodate them. A mother saved is a mother gained. Moreover, a mother saved often means a home saved, and a home saved means the prevention of many of the evils which the county is daily spending its money to correct."

HEALTHWIN HOSPITAL.
About last Christmas patients began to arrive at Healthwin about the age found in any ordinary nursery. They were fresh from school and taking the cure seemed to them rather a slow, tiresome thing. Most of the time they wandered about the wards or stayed in bed, lamenting the past joys of childhood and the fact that there was nothing to do.

About this time the superintendent of nurses decided the best remedy for this ailment was an open air school. This would keep the children busy, take up the broken thread of their education, and create a healthy, normal atmosphere for the children which would be free from thought of sickness.

To a shack was chosen, such as is to be seen at a school house. The shack, started without desks or benches, hospital tables being in the beginning. But the people of South Bend

heard that the hospital was trying to start a fresh air school they were very much interested and through the generous donations of the city schools and senior class of the high school, the school, after being moved to a larger shack, was well fitted out with desks and blackboards.

Those that have seen a fresh air school know that the windows are left open in cold weather as well as in warm weather. Of course you don't take off your wraps. No, you wear felt boots, your cap, and a few layers of coat. If you have cold fingers, you fill your hot water bottle with boiling hot water and bring that.

The school has an attendance of five to eight pupils. The teacher is also a patient, who is a high school graduate. The school has a morning session only, which lasts from 9 until 11:30, with a recess of 15 minutes at 10:15.

The pupils are taught the regular subjects taught in the public schools. The teacher has tried, as near as possible, to take up the work where the pupil left off, and continue the work of each particular grade. An Italian boy, who is very eager to learn English, and the American ways, has attended school for some

time. He has progressed from the first reader to the second, and is now taking fifth grade arithmetic. He is also taking civics. Already he has learned the functions of our city department and the duties of the officials. He is now beginning to study about the state and national government, an education much needed by all foreigners.

The one great advantage of fresh air school is that the mind is more active, and one does not grow tired and weary as one often does in a closed school house. The pupils as well as the teacher have noticed and remarked about this. This fact and others, such as prevent the final break down of a child, should interest nearly every one in South Bend in our earnest efforts to establish and maintain open air schools.

VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION.
In reviewing the work with children, which has been accomplished the past year, three divisions may be made: (1) That work with the new born; (2) With the children, five years and under; and (3) All work in the three schools allotted us by the board of education.

Going back to the first division, 186 visits were made to the new born babies, averaging six visits to each child. In general, the care was the baby's bath. Just one case of sore eyes developed and this was not a surprise, considering family conditions.

Of the children, five years and

under, instruction to the mother was more often given than actual nursing care. Classed with the diagnosis, improper feeding and intestinal disorders came first in order of recurrence. Many a time the mother needed to be reassured that exactly what she was doing for her child was right in accord with the nurse's best known methods.

The school work was carried on in three places—in the school, the home, and at doctors' (or dentists') offices.

The nurse made routine examination of school children (a medical inspector should conduct or supervise this work) and inspected the school for contagious disease. All children with skin eruptions, those running a temperature and those with suspicious throats were excluded from school. No child with a bad throat was allowed to return to school until a "negative" report came back from the city laboratory.

More than one visit was made to a room where, sitting in the front row, was a child down with the measles. Why was that boy in school? "Last time Jennie Ketch the red measles, the 'coop' (sanitary officer) stick a card on me."

To promote personal cleanliness, round buttons with the word "Doctor" or "Nurse" in red letters, were awarded; one doctor and one nurse being appointed in each room. Each officer made it his or her duty to see that their classmates came to school with clean faces, clean hands

and clean clothes. This scheme has proved very popular in some of the grades.

Minor skin troubles, and cuts, bruises and small surgical dressings were cared for in the school dispensary (said dispensary happening to be the teachers' rest room in two schools, and the corner of the principal's office at a portable building.)

Absences from school make necessary visits up to the home. Hundreds of visits, 1,600 to be exact, were made by the nurse last year, and this was a valuable part of the work for these reasons:

(a) To detect physical defects.
(b) To secure proper medical attention at time of illness.
(c) To teach the practice of hygiene and healthful living.
(d) To make a social survey of home conditions.

A woman, her husband and their three children were found renting two small rooms, but during the

winter months the second room was used as a store room, because it had no heating appliances. After three visits, the nurse was able to persuade the woman to move the three beds into the store room. (Even yet the nurse gives due credit to the weather man for sending up the temperature one Saturday in February.)

Because there are no free dispensaries in South Bend, the nurse was dependent upon the kindness and cooperation of doctors and dentists in the city, who gave much valuable time and thought to needy cases.

Many children wished to pay a little money toward their teeth that were treated, filled or extracted; many paid the cost price of medicine prescribed; a few paid nothing at all. A dozen who had adenoids or tonsils removed, are paying on the installment plan to the specialists who were kind enough to "make a price." (However, if a specialist

would "make a price" nearer the wage earner's pocketbook, say \$15 or \$20, he'd be kept busy all summer taking out abnormal growths.)

A second reason why the nurse took the pupil to one of the professional men was because there was no one in the home to take the child. A man who worked for the city said: "Nurse, you take my kid. He's the only kid we've got. Get his teeth fixed up fine, so he can get a good job when he goes to the 'S's'."

Just a beginning was made this year in corrections, but is it not something worth while to have made friends in a family; to have overcome their fear of the "rank outsider" who so many times exploits them? Is it not worth while to know that a dental clinic is an absolute need for the coming year? Sixteen hundred calls were made in the homes. To one who can read between the lines, that means more than the sick boy or school girl.

Often a mother needed medical care, or the wage earner was "down and out," and material relief had to be solicited from the proper cooperating agency. Children of working mothers were referred to the day nursery. A number of cases of tuberculosis (suspected) were reported to the Anti-Tuberculosis league. A number of impromptu talks were given on correct disposal of garbage.

The work of the Visiting Nurse association is only one spoke of the wheel.

KILLS SALOONKEEPER.

International News Service.
CHICAGO, May 26.—Oran Cox, a saloonkeeper, was shot and killed Thursday by Mrs. Goldie Krogh, a divorcee, who claimed that Cox was the father of her 15-month-old baby. The woman confessed. Cox leaves a widow and two children.

ARE YOU GOING TO SPEND THE WEEK END AND DECORATION DAY AWAY FROM HOME?

Let us sell you a Traveling Bag or Trunk. You will wonder at the great collection of Practical traveling outfits we have to Show You. We have Mens' with Suit Folders, Shirt Compartment, Toilet Article Compartment. The best looking bags you ever saw, from \$5.00 to \$25.00.

Splendid Trunks from \$5.00 to \$25.00. And every piece of luggage we offer for sale is guaranteed to you.



Robertson Bros. Co.

Saturday, May 27, Sun Rises 4:28; Sets 7:26.

Order by Mail
promptly filled. We have a complete line of men's and women's clothing, shoes, hats, etc., and we will ship anywhere in the world.

Children's---Boys'---Girls'---Outfitted Here for Graduation—for Vacation—for Outing—for Play

Night Gowns

Of summer weight muslin, daintily trimmed with embroidery—slip-over styles, long sleeves, for girls 6 to 15. Price 50c.

All She Needs. A combination garment—waist and drawers, made of barred dimity—all sizes to 10 years, at 50c.

Infants' Coats.

Also capes in long or short styles. Bedford Cord, Cashmere and Crapella Cloth. Hand embroidered collars and cuffs. Price \$1.50 to \$7.95.

Outing Shoes

Extra quality for boys at 59c, 89c and \$1.25.

Boys' Tan Sport Shoes, lace shoe with elk sole, the ideal shoes for tennis and baseball; sizes 6 to 11, at \$1.50 and \$1.75.

White Duck Shoes for children; Trot Moc sole; button, 8½ to 2, at \$2.50, \$2.95.

Girls' Patent and dull leather shoes, at \$2.00 to \$3.00.

Boys' Elk Skin Shoes, black and tan heavy leather sole, rubber heel, 9 to 13½, \$3.00; 1 to 5, at \$3.50.

Underwear

for Boys and Girls.

Union Suits for boys, 6 to 14 years—Poros knit summer garment in white and ecru, at 39c.

Union Suits for girls, 6 to 14 years; like thread, tight or loose knee; splendid values at 59c.

Half Hose for little children, 2 to 8 years; white with colored tops, fast colors, 25c pair.

Boys' Wash Pants

Made of genuine khaki and linens. The pants for hiking through the woods at 50c, 75c, \$1.00 pair.

Boys' Summer Hats Individual shapes, Palm beach and Porto Rican styles; at 25c, 50c and \$1.00.

Boys' Summer Shoes

The best low shoes you can buy for \$2.50 to \$3.50. Splendid Sandals for vacation days, from 50c to \$1.50.



Girls' Coats, 8 to 14 years, in checks and serges; washable collars and cuffs. Special tomorrow, \$5.00.

Graduation or Decoration Day Dresses

For Girls 14 and 16, intermediate dresses of Ginghams and Chambrays, in plain or striped designs. Waists have fancy collars and cuffs. Skirts made full and flaring. Priced \$1.50 to \$2.50.

Decoration Day Dresses in white, for children 2 to 6 and girls 6 to 14. Voiles, Batiste and Organdies with silk sashes. Full flaring skirts, some with bolero effects in waists. Children's, \$1.00 to \$5.00. Girls', \$1.25 to \$10.00.

Graduation Dresses for the eighth grade graduate. Short or long waist dresses or blouse effects with silk sashes and flower trimming. Prices \$1.95 to \$12.50.

Special Sale of Girls'

Vacation Play Dresses at 59c

Splendid values that have been underpriced for this occasion. 300 dresses here in Gingham, well-made in various styles. Special at 59c.

We Specialize on Children's Shoes

Special Sale of Sport Shoes for Children

Also Boys' and Girls'—You'll Find Your Shoes Here. During the past week we have received our complete line of Summer Shoes and Sport Shoes. They have been priced for fast selling.

Solid Leather Sandals

Infants' Play Sandals, tan or black, heavy sole, sizes 5 to 8, at 89c, \$1.15, \$1.25.

Children's Sandals, sizes 8½ to 11, at \$1.00, \$1.35, \$1.40. **Misses' and Boys' Sandals,** 11½ to 2, \$1.15, \$1.50, \$1.60. **Tennis Shoes,** the Goodyear Vim Shoes, best quality, children's sizes, 48c; youths', 50c.



K. AND E. Sport Blouses for Boys

It is a manly garment—every boy who wears a sport blouse is his own man. There is no need to bother father or worry mother, for he can take care of himself.

Look for Loop Blouse in exclusive materials and patterns, 50c, \$1.00.

Boys' Summer Trousers

Most boys in summer will not wear a coat. Separate trousers and a blouse all he needs. **Summer Pants** in mixtures and plain light colors, all sizes from 89c, \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50.

Little Tommy Tucker Suits

The new Summer Suit for little boys 2 to 8 years old. Plain colors, checks and stripes, self or contrasting collars and cuffs. Prices 59c, 89c, \$1.00, \$1.25 to \$2.50.

Spears Wash Hats to match suits at 25c and 50c.

Boys' Summer Cloth Suits in Norfolk and the new pinch back styles, just like the men's; all-wool serges and mixtures; ages 5 to 15 years. Every suit has two pair of trousers. Priced at \$3.98 and \$5.00.



Robertson Bros. Co.

Clearance Sale of Odd Suits Continues tomorrow—Saturday

Suits that sold at \$15.00, \$19.75 to \$40.00. Reduced to \$10.00, \$15.00 and \$25.00. Many blues, black and white checks—Silk Taffeta suits—good assortment of sizes to 46.

Summer Sport Coats at \$6.95, \$10.00 and \$15.00

Just arrived, every one a beauty.

Jersey All-Wool Coats, \$10, \$15.

Striped Silk Coats at \$15.00.

Plain Jersey Coats at \$15.00.

Chinchilla Sport Coats, \$6.98 to \$15.00.

Reduction on Fans—tomorrow

\$1.50, \$1.75, \$2.00 Fans, hand painted, ivory frames, at 95c. **\$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50 Fans,** lace chiffon and silk, bone frames, at 75c.

79c and \$1.00 Fans, silver and flowered chiffon, black and white, at 50c.

50c Fans, for children and grownups, ivory and silver, at 25c. **25c and 35c Fans,** silk and white chiffon and colors at 15c.



Blouses Here to Fit With Any Costume

Blouses to meet with any individual taste and with all those fascinating feminine frills, rufflings which mark them Summer 1916.

Wash Waists in voiles, batistes, organdies and dotted Swiss—embroidered, tucked and fancy lace trimmed. From \$1.00 to \$2.98.

Striped Madras Waists combined with pique, also in colored voiles and poplin; high or low collars, \$1.00, \$1.50.

Tub Silk Waists in all white, fancy stripes of black and navy at \$2.50, \$2.98.

Middy Blouses, all sizes, 59c, \$1.00, \$1.50.

Striped Sport Coats, in all widths, belted and patch pockets, at \$1.50 to \$4.50.

Graduation Hats—in White

Attractive display now here—models in choice Italian Leghorns—with ribbons, ostrich and flowered trimmings. Priced from \$5.00 to \$10.00.

Smart Sport Hats at \$2.95 to \$5.00

Nothing presents so much daring in design as the popular sport hats—colors are vivid, decorations are original and ingenious.



Children's Hats
Ready to wear,
95c, \$1.50, \$1.95

Fibre Silk Sweater Coats Now Selling at \$6.00

The smartest garment for your vacation trip. Rolling Collar style with sash or V-shaped neck; coat style with belt and pockets. Colors: Rose, wisteria, watermelon pink, 3 shades of blue, white; all sizes.

Never have we been able to offer you such a beautiful line of such coats.

